

## CHAPTER 32 PARTICIPATION OF INTERESTED PARTIES IN RATE REGULATION

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### 3200 PURPOSE

- 3200.1 This chapter shall provide the procedure by which interested parties may participate in the regulation by the Office of rates for basic cable service, installation and related equipment, offered by franchised cable operators in the District of Columbia, and in compliance with regulations adopted by the Federal Communications Commission.

**AUTHORITY:** Unless otherwise noted, the authority for this chapter is §2 of the Cable Television Communications Act of 1981 Amendment Act of 1994, D.C. Law 10-101, 41 DCR 1000 (March 4, 1994).

**SOURCE:** Final Rulemaking published at 41 DCR 1072, 1073 (March 4, 1994).

### 3201 COMMENTS DURING INITIAL REVIEW PERIOD

- 3201.1 At the time of filing with the Office of a rate increase request or notification of current rates for the basic service tier, installation and associated equipment, the cable operator shall transmit, for public review, a summary of these rates, to the Martin Luther King Library, the main library of the District of Columbia Library system, with a notice that interested persons shall submit written comments to the Office, by a date certain within fifteen (15) days of the cable operator's submittal to the Office, at the appropriate address.
- 3201.2 At the time a cable operator submit its existing rates or proposed rate increases for the basic service tier, installation and associated equipment, it shall cablecast a summary of these rates on its public information channel, at least twice daily at such times reasonably expected to reach the largest audience, over a three (3) day period, along with a notice that interested parties shall submit written comments by a date certain (within fifteen (15) days of the cable operator's submittal to the Office), at the appropriate address.
- 3201.3 Upon receipt of the cable operator's submission for review of its existing rates or proposed rate increases for the basic service tier, installation and associated equipment, the Office shall cablecast a summary of these rates on the channels allocated to the District of Columbia government, at least twice daily at times

reasonably expected to reach the largest audience over a three (3) day period, along with a notice that interested parties shall submit written comments to the Office by a date certain (within fifteen (15) days of the cable operator's submittal to the Office), at the appropriate address.

SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 41 DCR 1072, 1073 (March 4, 1994).

### 3202 COMMENTS DURING EXTENDED REVIEW PERIOD

- 3202.1 In connection with its review of the cable operator's rate filing, and after review of the comments received from interested parties, the Office shall determine whether to request additional comments from interested parties.
- 3202.2 If the Office determines that it shall avail itself of an additional ninety (90) days in cases not involving cost-of-service showings, or an additional one hundred fifty (150) days in cases involving cost-of-service showings to complete its review of the cable operator's rate filing pursuant to the Commission's rules, it shall seek additional comments from interested parties by scheduling a public hearing or requesting additional written comments within sixty (60) days of the cable operator's submittal to the Office.
- 3202.3 Notice of any hearing or request for additional comments shall be published in the *D.C. Register* and cablecasted over the cable channels allocated to the District of Columbia government.

SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 41 DCR 1072, 1974 (March 4, 1994).

### 3299 DEFINITIONS

- 3299.1 When used in this chapter, the terms and phrases shall have the meaning ascribed:

**Basic Service** - the basic service tier shall, at a minimum, include all signals of domestic television broadcast stations provided to any subscriber (except a signal secondarily transmitted by satellite carrier beyond the local service area of the station, regardless of how the signal is ultimately received by the cable system) and any public, educational, and governmental programming unless the franchise requires that the programming be carried on another tier, and any additional video programming signals or service added to the basic tier by the cable operator.

**Office** - the Office of Cable Television.

SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 41 DCR 1072, 1074 (March 4, 1994).